New parole board member wins praise from ex-boss

By AL RUTLEDGE

The appointment of veteran parole and probation agent, Jasper R. Clay, Jr. to the newly-creater five-man Parole Board was greeted enthusiastically by the Board's former chairman Paul C. Wolman.

"I have great regard for Mr. Clay," Mr. Wolman told the AFRO Thursday. "I have known him for sometime and find him to be a capable man."

Mr. Clay is the second board member of color.

The first is David Mason, the Board's chairman. Both were sworn in on Thursday afternoon.

• • •

Early last year the General Assembly passed a bill which dissolved the three-member, part-time Parole Board and replaced it with the present five-member, full-time system.

The bill was passed in the midst of fiery criticism of Mr. Wolman from the president of the Ministers' Alliance, the Rev. Marion C. Bascum.

Rev. Bascum had this to say Thursday about the new board:

"I hope the board members with Mr. Mason and Mr. Clay will prove themselves to be the men I think they are.

"The Alliance is not critical of the new appointees, but we will be watching to see what develops."

• • •

Mr. Clay takes to his new post the wherewithall to assure that a great deal will "develop."

He has been in the parole and probation system for 10 years. Coming into the department's Baltimore district in 1958 a Grade 1 agent. In February, 1968 he was appointed staff specialist (training and development).

In this position he was responsible for the planning, developing, and administering the training program of new agents.

• • •

Last November he was promoted to district supervisor of the Baltimore City District Office.

JASPER R. CLAY

Mr. Clay also holds a B.S. in psychology from Morgan State College and has done graduate work at Loyola College, here and Rutgers University.

The prime issue facing the new board, according to sources inside the department, is whether the new board will or can quiet major critics who see no progress in the retention of Mr. Wolman as director of Department of Probation and Parole.

• • •

Mr. Clay who remains quiet on questions of the new Parole Board's policy, offers this defense for the previous board.

It isn't fair to compare the two systems, Mr. Clay believes because "the new board is full time and can be more thorough in its selection of inmates to be paroled."

When Mr. Wolman became chairman of the Parole Board in 1961 the department handled a caseload of 4,000.

In seven years the load has increased to 14,500 and parole revocation is only 10 per cent.

"This means," Mr. Wolman says, "that we've been successful 90 per cent of the time."

The challenge of the new board as Mr. Clay sees it, is not to compete with the record of the old board, "but to make a meaningful contribution now."

Mr. Clay's wife, Ossie, is optimistic in the contribution her husband will make to the board.

"He's very dedicated to the department," she says, "and I'm sure he'll do a fine job."

The Clays have one daughter, Regina Maria, five, and are expecting another child in March.

Mr. Mason, prior to his appointment, was assistant state attorney general in chief of the Criminal Division.

The new board chairman is also a former assistant state's attorney for Baltimore City and was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention.

Lawmakers name governor Tuesday

By PETER J. KOPER

The Maryland General Assembly will meet Monday in a special session called by Gov. Spiro T. Agnew for the purpose of electing a successor to the Republican Vice President-elect.

House of Delegates Speaker Marvin Mandel is expected to be elected by an decisive vote when the legislators get together Tuesday for the roll call.

The 185-member legislative body is in Democratic control, and State Democratic Committee Chairman Mandel commands the loyalty of a large number of state Democrats.

Mr. Mandel is considered to be a part of the regular party machine, and his only serious opposition from within the organization comes from what is known as the "reform" or liberal faction of the party.

The liberal forces have held little sway in party politics and their farthest penetration has been Joseph D. Tyding's capture of one of Maryland's U.S. Senate seats.

• • •

The liberal faction Democrat opposing Mr. Mandel is Baltimore attorney Francis X. Gallagher.

Mr. Gallagher, an early supporter of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy's bid for the presidency, supported Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy at the Democratic Convention in Chicago.

Mr. Mandel led the Maryland delegates to the convention and rounded up support for Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey's successful bid for the presidential nomination.

The liberal Democratic faction has had difficulty in rounding up votes for Mr. Gallagher, despite endorsements from Baltimore Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro and Senator Tydings.

• • •

When electioneering started for the vacant governorship, there was talk that U.S. Ambassador to France R. Sargent Shriver may have returned to his native Maryland to run as the liberal candidate, but the opportunity never materialized and the group was left without a prominent representative of national statute for the contest.

Sources have indicated that Mr. Gallagher may give his team for an effort in the 1970 regular election which will chose a governor in a general public election.

On the Republican side,

(Continued on Page 27)

Five-pound boy is city's first baby

Baltimore's first baby of the New Year, a boy, the son of Mrs. Geraldine Pratt, 31, of the 1500 block W. Franklin St., was born at 1:04 a.m. Wednesday at University Hospital.

The five-pound, 13-ounce infant was the first New Year baby to be born in the University," said Sr. Clifton McClain who supervised the delivery by cesarean-section.

"Mrs. Pratt and the baby are doing well," he said.

"This is the first time anything like this has happened to me (being a first), and I am very happy about the baby and the kindnesses others have shown me, since the baby's birth," beamed the excited mother when the AFRO visited the hospital.

'Awareness' to eye prejudice, effects

"Operation Awareness," a series of six lectures on topics of major importance to the black community, is scheduled to begin Monday evening, at the Corpus Christi School Hall, 1400 Mount Royal Ave., with the showing of a motion picture entitled, "Where is Prejudice?"

The series, which is directed at the improvement of the black community's understanding of social problems and human relations, will include a lecture every Monday evening at 8 o'clock, followed by a discussion in which all interested persons are asked to join.

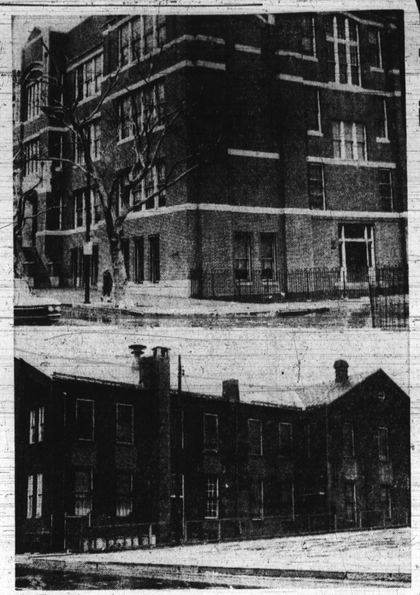
All of the programs are scheduled to take place at the Corpus Christi School Hall.

• • •

The other programs include the following lectures:

"The Practical Implications of Black Power,"

(Continued on Page 27)



UNDER FIRE — The top photo shows the main building of the Commodore John Rodgers Elementary School at 2031 to 2041 E. Fayette St. The building below is the annex. Both structure are under attack from East Baltimore parents who have threatened to boycott the school unles immediate improvements are made. Dr. Thomas D. Sheldon, school, superintendent, has offered to bus the children to other schools, but protesting parents rejected the offer.

Yule free 'star' held in jail

Ellis Douglas, the "star" of the Baltimore City Police Department's Christmas tree is lodged in city jail to await trial on numerous federal charges.

Douglass, who has been the object of an intense manhunt by city police and FBI agents since last June, was captured by agents in Washington, D.C. two weeks ago.

He was confined to city jail on Dec. 23.

While Douglass is currently being held on a bank robbery charge city police are in the process of filing several detainers on him, including an assault with intent to murder.

Douglass' career in crime dates back to 1967 and according to police records he has since run up lengthy list of charges which are being placed against him by local authorities.

Because of his elusiveness Douglass earned a place of honor among the men most wanted by the Baltimore City Police Department.

When the Detective Division erected its Christmas tree investigators decorated it with mug shots of their most sought-after criminals.

At the top of the tree they placed their "star", Ellis Douglass.

When the tree was taken down the "Star's" picture had already been removed.

AFRO carrier wins bicycle

AFRO carrier Cephas Richardson won a bicycle as the first prize in the Food-a-Rama contest this month.

Cephas, who had saved a considerable amount of Christmas money from his paper route, lives in the 3800 block of Granada Ave. in northwest Baltimore.

He is one of the biggest carriers for the AFRO in the area with a route of approximately 200 papers.

He has been serving the area for two years.

City's health seen improved for 1968

According to Dr. Matthew Tayback, city deputy commissioner of health, the most important developments cited in the review of health conditions in Baltimore City during 1968 were½

1. Remarkable control of those diseases for which vaccines exist to prevent illness.

2. Extensive illness from acute respiratory conditions for which preventive procedures are limited.

3. Measurable progress in the fight against tuberculosis;

4. A determined effort by the city administration to improve the sanitary level of the residential areas of the city.

Two extensive outbreaks of acute respiratory illness, one in late January, and the other in December due to Hong Kong type influenza, probably caused 1,000,000 days of disabling illness among residents of Baltimore City, the Commissioner said.

Diseases similar in means of transmission (diphtheria-O, whooping cough-23, poliomyelitis-O, and measles-66) in total caused less than 1,000 days of illness.

This striking difference is due to the availability of preventive vaccines and to the protective inoculation service and health intelligence systems evolved and maintained by the City Health Department he said.

One may expect within the near future, vaccines of high potency against the many viruses which cause acute respiratory disease will help reduce the enormous extent of illness caused by these conditions in cost, in lost time, and in medical care, according to Mr. Tayback.

• • •

The continued evidence of considerable migration within, in, and out of the city resulted in marked changes in the social and economic characteristics of the city's population, the commissioner reported.

It also increased the number of residents who moved to neighborhoods where added social and health services must be provided.

In this regard the City Health Department is readjusting its clinics and services to meet the changes needed in the population trends, he adds.

The annual health report also shows:

• • •

Tuberculosis one of the more difficult public health problems during 1968, engaged the attention of many skilled professionals in Baltimore City.

The number of newly reported active cases was 640, a reduction of 6.7 percent from the level of 683 reported in 1967.

Although the incidence of tuberculosis in the City is relatively high, studies of the spread of 70 new cases per 100,000 population, infection indicated that transmission of tuberculosis is rarely seen among middle income and upper income families, and even among the children from economically deprived circumstances.

(Continued on Page 27)

Sykes fills vacancy left by E. M. Ewing

Edgar M. Ewing, director of the Model Cities Agency, has been appointed general manager of the Inner Harbor II Project.

The ranking city official had stated early in December that he intended to retire from the Model Cities Agency for reasons of health, as soon as the agency's request for Federal funds had entered the proper channels in Washington.

The first year funding request, now under Federal study, calls for slightly over $10 million in aid for co-ordinated efforts to improve housing conditions, transportation, recreation, health care, education, and other aspects of ghetto life in the six Model Cities demonstration neighborhoods.

• • •

Mr. Ewing's temporary successor in the Model Cities Agency is William G. Sykes, recently appointed deputy director of the agency by Mayor D'Alesandro.

Mr. Sykes had also been approved by the City Council as deputy director of the Community Action Agency, on appointment of the mayor, but refused the position after the Council rejected Walter P. Carter as head of that agency. A spokesman for the mayor said no consideration has been given to a permanent successor to Mr. Ewing.

Mr. Ewing's new position with the Inner Harbor II Project, will entail the coordination of a wide range of efforts to re-develop the area adjacent to the wa-Baltimore.

Special emphasis will be placed on the construction of moderate-income housing, a field in which Mr. Ewing, who was acting director of the Urban Renewal Agency before his appointment to the Model Cities project, is considered a leading expert.

• • •

Discussing the plans for the 68-acre inner harbor area, Mr. Ewing stated that he hoped to see the construction of an entirely new community there.

One of the main problems to be solved in this respect, he said, is the construction of housing of good quality and architectural style that will be easily affordable by persons of moderate income.

Patients cheered

Mesdames Mamie Dorsey, Helen Johnson, and Elizabeth Murry, members of the Order of the eastern Star, Rebecca Chapter No. 5, 1037 Harlem Avenue brightened the holidays for the patients at Kenesaw Christmas gifts.

$50

That's right each and every week, the AFRO pays a total of $50 for news tips. YOU can share in this prize fund. Just be FIRST to call AFRO City Desk, 728-8200 as soon as you witness a newsworthy event. Bring photos of news events to City Desk and qualify for a special prize.

BUSY JUDGE — Supreme Bench Judge Sol Liss, much sought after master of ceremonies and generally considered one of the more learned members of the bench, exuded satisfaction recently when he presented nounced that he and Oriole star Frank proceeds form the Jim Parker Day to Provident Hospital officials and Jackie Robinson are trustees of a trust fund to aid the education of an underprivileged inner city child.

'Vietnam Reader' under discussion

Members of the Fellowship House Book Club and the public are invited to a discussion session examining the controversial book, "The Vietnam Reader," edited by Marcus G. Raskin and Bernard B. Fall, at the Fellowship House on Jan. 8, at 8:00 p.m.

The group will compare the views of the many diverse contributors to the book, including Lyndon Johnson, Mao Tse-tung, U Thant, Robert Kennedy, Charles de Gaulle, and Robert MacNamara.

The book has quotations from original documents such as the Geneva Conference Declaration, Viet Cong diaries, and the International Control Commission reports.

Also included are activities of groups like the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the Vietnam Lobby and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam.

In addition, personal accounts are given by journalist observers in Vietnam, and conclusions with proposals for ending the war by news editors.

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Human Rights Day Honors Dr. King (BACK PAGE)

Baltimore Afro-American

Richardson-Sample Super Battle Looms (SPORTS PAGE)

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Accused FBI Killer Was Busy 'Guardhouse Lawyer'

Fires Gut Church; Kill 4 Children

FIRE, SMOKE, TEARS — The grief, triggered by a seven-alarm fire Wednesday night which demolished the Cornerstone Baptist Church, Wilson and Bolton Sts., is mirrored on the face of Dr. I. Logan Kearse, pastor. "My church, my church," the clergyman repeated as more than 100 ices-pattered firemen battled the stubborn and billowing flames which gutted the edifice that has been an integral part of the community for 10 years. Dr. Kearse said no activity was scheduled at the church Wednesday night and as far as he knew, no one was inside at the time of the fire.

(AFRO staff Photo By IRVING H. PHILLIPS JR.)

Cornerstone to rise from ashes; house fire fatal

Children

On Tuesday night Calvin, Denice, Duane, and Lamont Barnes died in the fire that destroyed their wood frame home at 1901 Braddish Ave.

Mrs. Ruth Purnell was the last person to see them alive.

She regrets it.

"I looked through my bathroom window," Mrs. Purnell told the AFRO "and I saw those four little faces staring at me with the fire roaring in back of them.

"I screamed at them to go to the back and jump but they didn't hear me. Then the heat broke their window and the fire began to swirl around them."

Mrs. Purnell and her husband, Moses, live in an old solidly-built and beautifully furnished row house at 1903 Braddish Ave.

The house at 1901 was detached. It stood on a steep hill and was made of wood.

Here the four Barnes children, their mother (Elizabeth); her uncle, Richard Jews; her cousin, Charles Barnes; his wife and two children and Mrs. Mary Inez Green and her three children lived.

• • •

At 9:15 Tuesday night Mrs. Purnell was in bed listening to her favorite talk show on the radio.

She recalls:

"I heard the children crying around quarter after nine and I got out of bed and went out to the back of my house to see what was wrong.

"I couldn't see their window from the back and I didn't see smoke or fire, so I came back into the house and went to bed.

"At 9:30 they were still crying, so I went to the bathroom and looked out and I saw those four little faces and the fire roaring in back of them."

Mrs. Purnell rushed to her phone and called the operator telling her to send firemen to the next door address and that four children were in the house.

She said she then went to the back of the house in hopes of reaching the children, but found the wooden fire escape burning and flames leaping through the wall. The children were trapped.

Inside the house fire investigators indicate, Charles Barnes was trying vainly to reach the attic bedroom of the children, but flames had completely

(Continued on Page 3)

Cornerstone

"I am convinced that a greater Cornerstone Baptist Church will rise from those ashes."

A somber Dr. I. Logan Kearse, who had only 24 hours earlier wept unashamedly as he watched a seven-alarm fire destroy the 6,300-member edifice at Bolton and Wilson Sts., spoke late Thursday with marked deliberation.

He was giving the AFRO his reaction to and plans to cope with the fiery destruction of Cornerstone, one of the largest and active churches in the community.

The shock and tragedy of the fire to the contrary, Dr. Kearse explained that "the most important part of Cornerstone was untouched — the people, the Cornerstone family."

It is the determination of the "family," Dr. Kearse said, "coupled with the support of all people of good will that will give birth to another Cornerstone, greater than the original house of worship."

Detailing what he called his "workable philosophy," the prominent clergyman also reviewed the history of the original church.

"It boils down to this," he began. "It is often through tragedy that a person or persons find themselves.

"Ten years ago I started this church in a lady's living room with just a handful of people.

"We built a church of more than 6,300 people. Most of them came along after the lean years. They don't remember the hard-times, only the better things that came afterwards.

"Now everybody is going to have a chance to get in on the struggling stage This is the good that comes out of this tragedy.

Dr. Kearse gave supportive evidence that the holocaust "only burned a beautiful building."

It sparked a new determination in the hearts of the real church — the people."

That part of Cornerstone the popular clergyman described will be "doing business as usual Sunday morning."

Regular services (11 a.m., evening, and 10 p.m. broadcast) will be conducted from the Masonic Temple at 1307 Eutaw Place.

The weeknight activities will be conducted from the B. Johnson Funeral Home auditorium as will Sunday school, he said.

Lapsing again into a philosophical approach to the tragedy, Dr. Kearse, an intimate friend and companion of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, counted his blessings.

"The only thing I have now that I didn't have 10 years ago when I started

(Continued on Page 24)

Suspected killer challenged prison

By ADRIENNE MANNS

WASHINGTON

Billie Austin Bryant, accused killer of two FBI agents and convicted bank robber, was a man who would not submit to police and jail authority.

He filed three separate suits in the U.S. District Court while he was waiting in D.C. Jail for his bank robbery trial. He asked for a court-appointed lawyer to argue his civil suits and was denied.

And all his petitions for injunctions against the state of Maryland and the U.S. Government and his suit to fire a D.C. Jail officer were also denied in court.

• • •

"The plaintiff has more important things to do, than sit down and draw up complaints against D.C. jail officials," Bryant wrote Jan. 4, 1968, shortly before Judge Matthew McGuire dismissed his case against Jail official, Grim Hopkins.

• • •

In a hand written statement, Bryant accused Hopkins of opening his personal mail, in this case a lease agreement sent to him

(Continued on Pag 19)

Intense manhunt halted in attic

WASHINGTON

Billie Austin Bryant, 29, suspect in the double slaying of two FBI agents, was captured Wednesday, almost seven hours after the shooting by a massive man hunt launched by the combined efforts of the Metropolitan police force, the FBI and Prince Georges' county police.

The two agents, Edwin R. Woodriffe and Anthony Palmisano were shot when they tracked down the suspect in a morning holdup of the Citizen's Bank in Maryland, to 133 Yuma St., SE, the home of Bryant's estranged wife.

Around noon, an officer of the Metropolitan police found the bodies of the two FBI men lying atop one another in the hallway of the third floor apartment

(Continued on Page 19)

'Wires were crossed,' —shoot-out victim

"Wires were crossed," says the latest "Death alley" shoot-out victim.

The victim, 23-year-old Leon Jackson of the 2500 block W. Lombard St. told the AFRO Thursday from his bed in Provident Hospital:

"I didn't know he (Charles Burman, the accused assailant) was after me. They say someone told him I was gunning for him, but I wasn't armed when he shot me.

"And if I had been expecting trouble, I would have been more cautious."

Following the surrender of Mr. Burman to police investigators reported they were alerted three days earlier that Mr. Jackson

(Continued on Page 3)

Ivan Allen leaves post as mayor

ATLANTA — Mayor Ivan Allen, "Damned and loved, hit and applauded" as the racially-moderate head of the Deep South's largest city, said Monday he's had enough.

Allen announced that he's resigning as mayor early this year to give the city ample opportunity to discuss new leadership" before his term expires next January.

Allen, 57, gave "personal reasons" for not seeking a third term. He was one of the first Southern politicians to speak out for civil rights and during his first term, he authorized colored policemen to arrest whites.

In his announcement, the longtime friend and supporter of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., warned Atlanta's white community that race relations remained the city's major problem.

• • •

Allen, who won election to his first term in 1961

(Continued on Page 5)

Red Cross halts Biafran airlifts

GENEVA — The new nation of Equatorial Guinea has forced the Red Cross to suspend mercy food airlifts into Biafra, the International Committee of the Red Cross said Wednesday.

The Red Cross said Equatorial Guinea had also cut off the supply of gasoline needed for trucks that distribute food in Biafra.

The announcement came 24 hours after the Agency for International Development revealed in Washington that the United States is donating an additional $2.3 million to help the Red Cross with its relief operations in Biafra.

The Red Cross did not

(Continued on Page 2)

'I SHALL GOVERN':

Gov. Mandel does just that—govern

By MAX JOHNSON
AFRO Political Analyst

ANNOPOLIS — Maryland's new Gov. Marvin Mandel, who promised in his acceptance speech Tuesday that "I shall govern," has jumped off to a fast start.

He has in two days:

1. Annoucced that 22,000 persons cut from Medicaid under the Agnew administration would be restored to the program.

2. Decided to submit to the General Assembly on Jan. 22 the state's budget as willed to him by Vice President-elect Spiro T. Agnew.

3. Made a major appointment in naming Sen. Blair Lee 3rd (Howard-Montgomery) Maryland's secretary of state, replacing the resigned C. Stanley Blair.

• • •

In addition, Gov. Mandel is deep in the process of screening persons of both races to shape his staff.

Already named as his press aide is Frank DeFilippo, former political writer for a Baltimore daily newspaper.

The governor has indicated he wants the top echelon members of his staff to be flexible, rather than be confined to a specic set of duties.

This staff is to include one or more black citizens, and the governor is preparing to confer with leaders to determine their wishes.

He has already stated he wants somebody in a highly activist role, rather than window-dressing pacifists.

Moving quickly in this direction, he has under strong consideration a member of the black community, not yet free to be named.

• • •

Further, Gov. Mandel has requested for review all proposed bills left by former Gov. Agnew for presentation to the 70-day session of the General Assembly, which convenes Wednesday.

When they are presented, he will be faced with three strong civil rights bills drafted by the now-defunct Governor's Advisory Committee on Human Rights, named by Vice President-elect Agnew.

They are measures to:

1. Broaden the state's public accommodations law to cover all establishments

(Continued on Page 3)

Last chance to vote for ministers

Next Wednesday will be the focal point of the AFRO's Favorite Minister Contest. That's when all ballots are due for your own favorite minister, before 5:30 p.m. in the AFRO offices at 628 N. Eutaw St.

The final ballot in the contest appears in to day's paper. Winners will be announced a week from now, in the issue dated Jan. 18.

All congregations are ready for the big push. Right now the Rev. W. P. Mitchell, of Payne Memorial A.M.E. Church, leads with 795,500 votes.

The race for top position—to be named Baltimore's Favorite Minister—is close. Closing fast on the Rev. Mr. Mitchell is the Rev. Lewis Conway, of First Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, with 738,600 votes.

Also above 700,000 votes, and running fast is the Rev.

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued on Page 3)

Chuckle

The used-car dealer was demonstrating an old hogg. As he started up a hill he he said to the prospective buyer. "This is the opportunity of a lifetime."

"Sure is," said the prospective buyer. "I can even hear it knocking."

NEW FIRST FAMILY — Marvin Mandel, Maryland's 50th governor, was the epitome of a doting father and loving husband Tuesday while posing for AFRO cameraman Irving H. Phillips following his landslide election by the General Assembly. The new governor, former Speaker of the House in the General Assembly, is flanked by his daughter, Miss Tilen Mandel, left, and wife, the former Miss Barbara Oberfeld.

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